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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT**3 JANUARY 2018**

(U) NATIONAL**(U) Arizona - DEA Dismantled Major International Drug Operation**

(U) Phoenix - A major drug trafficking operation with Arizona ties was been shut down by the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), resulting in the arrest of more than a dozen people including the Phoenix-based ringleader. The investigation lasted more than two years and included agents in multiple states, as the illicit operation "was a multi-state transportation and drug trafficking cell," according to a DEA official. The multi-pronged operation also included drug smugglers in Mexico linked to several traffickers in the United States. The drug trafficking ring also employed a US Airways employee who used his position to transport illicit profits back-and-forth between Arizona and the East Coast.

SOURCE: 2 January 2018, [KVOA News](#)

(U) New York - City to Spend \$50 Million to Prevent Car-Ramming Terror Attacks

(U) New York City - New York City is set to install more than 1,500 new permanent bollards in Times Square and other public spaces around the city to help protect pedestrians, the mayor announced yesterday. The metal barriers will be placed in heavily-populated streets and sidewalks to counter the threat of car-ramming terror attacks and car accidents. The announcement comes after two deadly attacks using vehicles in Manhattan last year.

SOURCE: 2 January 2018, [ABC News](#)

(U) New York - Police Investigating 'ISIS Selfies' Outside Museum

(U) New York City - Authorities in New York are reportedly investigating photographs of a possible ISIS supporter taking selfies outside the Metropolitan Museum of Art and in view of One World Trade Center. The images, that began circulating on social media over the weekend, shows an individual posing while wearing an ISIS-branded scarf over his face with the caption "We are in your own Backyard." Another photo is of a person holding an ISIS flag in the shadow of One World Trade Center building. As with all terror related threats, the NYPD is looking into the incident. At this time there are no credible threats related to New York City.

SOURCE: 2 January 2018, [Fox News](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL**(U) Mexico – Shooting of Imperial Beach Official a 'Priority Case,' say Guerrero Officials**

(U) Guerrero – Authorities in the southern Mexican state of Guerrero said yesterday that they are making a top priority of their investigation into the shooting death of an Imperial Beach CA city official killed on 28 December while vacationing in the resort of Ixtapa-Zihuatanejo. As of yesterday, authorities had yet to confirm the motive for the assault and reported no arrests. The murder was one of 2,773 homicides in 2017 in Guerrero, the state with the highest number of violent deaths in Mexico. Many of the killings have been attributed to rivalries between drug trafficking organizations.

SOURCE: 2 January 2018, [San Diego Union Tribune](#)

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UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY**(U) Iraq – Notorious ISIS Executioner Captured by Iraqi Forces**

(U) Baghdad – Iraqi forces have captured one of ISIS' most feared executioners, Abu Omer, nicknamed "White Beard," who presided over dozens of killings in the terror group's former stronghold of Mosul, according to reports. More recent photographs published by AhlulBayt News Agency purportedly show Omer after he was captured and was surrounded by armed officers who lead him to a police station. His arrest was confirmed on 29 December.

SOURCE: 2 January 2018, [New York Post](#)

(U) Syria – French Woman Accused of Recruiting for ISIS Captured by Kurdish Forces

(U) Damascus – Emilie König, a Frenchwoman suspected of recruiting fighters for ISIS who appeared on US and UN watch lists, was arrested by Kurdish forces in Syria yesterday, according to her mother. König went to Syria in 2014 and three of her children were born there. She converted to Islam after marrying her first husband, who was arrested for drug trafficking. König appeared in several propaganda videos in which she appealed for jihad "as long as the enemy is around".

SOURCE: 2 January 2018, [The Guardian](#)

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